FORGET THE CHINESE TAKEOUT
MAKE YOUR OWN DUMPLINGS {page 24}

MAYOR'S MUSINGS
ROBERTSON ON TRANSIT, GOING GREEN AND MORE {page 4}

TALKING HEATH WILLIAMS OPENS UP ABOUT HER GRIEF {page 22}

VANCOUVER metro®
Weekend, December 24-25, 2010
www.metronews.ca
News worth sharing.

KIMIYA SHOKOOHI/FOR METRO

▶ Shoppers at Pacific Centre Mall in Vancouver Thursday.

'Tis the season for thieving

Busiest buying season doubles as biggest stealing season ◐ 20% of annual retail finances lost to thefts

KIMIYA SHOKOOHI
VANCOUVER@METRONEWS.CA

It's the most wonderful time of the year — for shoplifters.

The season of giving is also the season of taking as retailers experience a spike in thefts during the holidays, said Dave Jones, security consultant for the Downtown Vancouver Business Improvement Association.

"Shoplifting tends to increase during this time of year," Jones said.

"But the reports actually don't show it because retailers are so busy trying to sell."

Thursday marked the busiest shopping day of the year, according to Moneris Solutions, Canada's largest credit and debit card purchase processor.

Due to high volumes of store traffic, rather than reporting the shoplifters to police, retailers are confronting them at the door and issuing fines.

"What (shoplifters) don't realize is all the major malls have loss-prevention teams," Jones said.

Yet, the way retailers prosecute shoplifters varies.

"We had a guy the other day, a contractor, that came into this particular store, took a pair of cutters, cut a length of wire off and put it in his pocket — it probably cost $3 but we still processed him," said Ian Abramson, president of Vancouver's International Loss Prevention System Corporation (ILPS).

ILPS, which is a firm hired by companies for its detective shoppers, sees an annual hike in business during December.

"(Shoplifting) is a hundred — a thousand per cent up," Abramson said about thefts during the holiday season.

"This makes it sound like stealing is really easy, but we're catching people all the time."

For more news, visit metronews.ca/vancouver

Happy holidays

Watch for our special Boxing Day issue Sunday. Metro will resume regular publishing Jan. 4.

Canucks cruise

Henrik Sedin ties career high as Vancouver crushes Columbus 7-3 {page 25}

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First Christmas. Special guest

▶ Santa pays a visit to newborn Tessa Joy Babs-Wild at St. Paul's Hospital Thursday as mom, Kate, and big brother Ben, 6, look on.

KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO

A new name to add to Santa's master list

Dal Richards helped out the jolly old elf by dressing as Santa and handing out blankets and teddy bears in the maternity ward on behalf of Variety Club. Richards has made the maternity ward visit an annual holiday tradition.

HST chill in state of thaw: Poll

Liberals and NDP in virtual tie at 38 per cent support ◗ Christy Clark, Mike Farnworth poll as favourites to lead respective parties ◗ 90 per cent support raising B.C. minimum wage

J.J. MCCULLOUGH
VANCOUVER@METRONEWS.CA

The battle to ditch the HST may be tightening.

British Columbians have softened their skepticism towards the tax, which at one time was almost universally hated, according to a new and far-reaching survey on the state of B.C. politics.

An Angus Reid poll released Thursday pegs the current rate of opposition to the HST at only 54 per cent of voters, down from a high of upwards of 80 per cent, with 35 per cent in favour and 11 per cent undecided. In the upcoming referendum, which will likely be held in June of next year, the opposition side must account for 50 per cent plus one of all votes cast in order to overturn the tax.

Much stronger opposition was found in response to a proposal to lower B.C.'s voting age to 16, an idea endorsed by several Liberal leadership candidates. Only 27 per cent of British Columbians endorse such a move, with 65 per cent opposed. Likewise 60 per cent oppose allowing individuals under the age of 18 to vote in the Liberal and NDP leadership primaries, something currently permitted by both parties.

"We believe if young people get involved in the political process early they'll continue to vote as they get older."
JAN O'BRIEN, NDP PROVINCIAL SECRETARY

NDP spokeswoman Jan O'Brien said her party's low minimum age of membership — currently 12 years old — was designed to foster greater inclusion.

1 news

Buttoned-down BlackBerry prepares for an image overhaul in 2011. Scan code for the story.

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Stephen Harper praises Canada's place on the world stage in his annual holiday message. Video at metronews.ca

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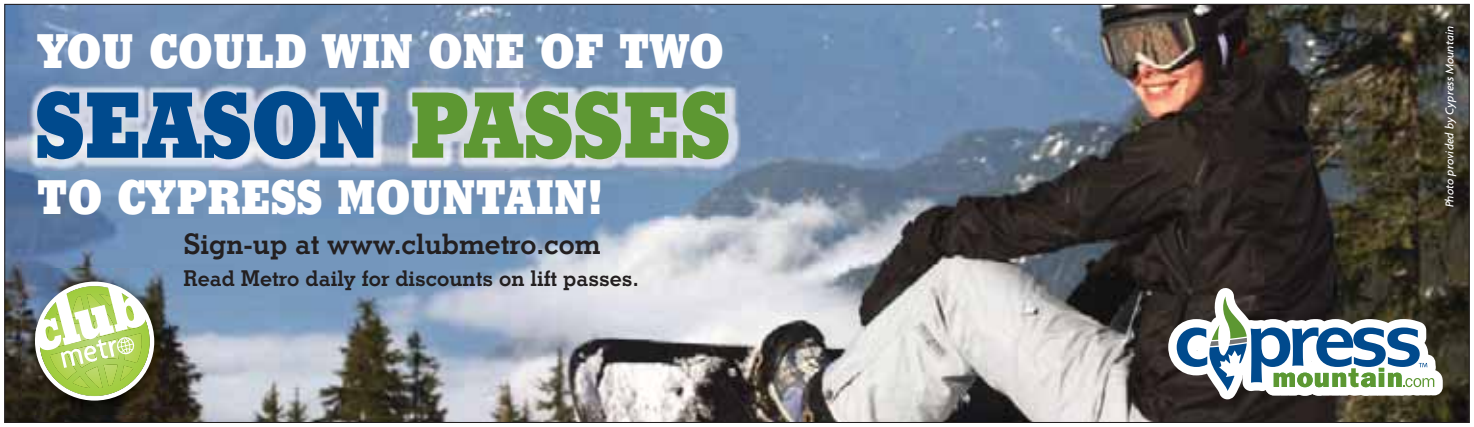

De Jong urges convention

The B.C. Liberals are sacrificing the traditional spectacle and suspense of cheering crowds, victory speeches and slamming thunder sticks that have accompanied leadership conventions in the past in hopes of making the leadership vote more accessible to more members.

They're gambling that the wider base of enthusiasm will bring the B.C. Liberals the same kind of excitement as leadership conventions in the past have.

But candidate Mike de Jong says there still needs to be a party of some sort.

The B.C. Liberals are doing away with polling stations for the Feb. 26 leadership vote, instead switching to an ultra-modern online and phone voting system.

"We feel this voting method builds excitement within our party because it gives everyone the opportunity to vote wherever they are. They need not travel hundreds of kilometres to a central voting location to cast a ballot," said Chad Pederson, the party's executive director.

But in a statement Thursday, de Jong urged the party executive to ensure B.C. Liberals have a chance to celebrate the leadership results.

"While the voting system does not lend itself to a traditional leadership convention, we should still organize an event where we can meet old friends, have a snack, a refreshment or two, and share the excitement as the results come in," he said.

Earlier this month, party executives approved replacing the first-past-the-post system with one that lets voters rank their candidates on the ballot sheet.

The party hopes to replace the one-member-one-vote for a complex point system that weighs every vote differently. Pederson said it is designed to ensure more populous riding don't discount smaller ridings.

The candidate with more than 50 per cent of the points becomes the next party leader.

These changes have already been approved by party executives, but will need to be stitched into the party's constitution.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

JENNIFER GAUTHIER/FOR METRO

▶ Sinkhole on Southeast Marine Drive

City plugs sinkhole

A massive sinkhole that shut down Southeast Marine Drive near Main Street has finally been repaired, the City of Vancouver announced Thursday.

All lanes between Main and Fraser streets reopened at 3 p.m., two weeks after the 14-metre-wide sinkhole forced the road closed.

Murray Wightman, manager of street operations for the city, said cleanup went well in light of the number of agencies involved in the repair.

He said the sinkhole was caused by overflow from a water line, which "started to break down and peel away the road's sub-base, which then collapsed under the weight of the asphalt."

14 Width, in metres, of the sinkhole on Southeast Marine Drive.

Repair of the sinkhole required around-the-clock collaboration between multiple agencies, the city said in a release.

"Metro Vancouver crews completed the repair ... at the bottom of the sinkhole using a rapid concrete curing process."

City crews worked quickly to repair the water main, fill in the sinkhole and pave the road.

"Commuters, residents and local businesses are thanked for their patience as work to fix the large sinkhole proceeded as quickly as possible."

KRISTEN THOMPSON

JEFF HODSON/METRO

▶ Mayor Gregor Robertson

Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson reflects on the first two years of his term in office, the Olympics and homelessness ◐ Discusses goals for 2011 ◐ No plans to seek leadership of NDP

BIKE LANES AND ELECTRIC CARS

CITY'S GREEN FUTURE

The new bike lanes continue to be a contentious issue, what are your thoughts?
They've been contentious, but so far they've been successful. With Hornby Street, we complete the network from Kitsilano to Chinatown, across Burrard, down Hornby and then out the Dunsmuir Viaduct. The bike lanes will also connect the seawalls through downtown.

People have increasingly been using transit, bikes and walking, so we have to keep improving the facilities to make sure we're keeping up with that demand.

So you see it as a bit of an experiment?
Yeah, big cities around the world are doing this too: Paris, London, New York. I think more people would like to ride a bike, but want to be safe. And we've been pushing really hard for more transit in Vancouver — more buses, rapid transit — and we're waiting for the investment from the B.C. and federal governments, but in the meantime we can improve cycling and walking in the city.

Is it in the best interest of businesses on Hornby Street, and will it cause traffic problems to worsen?
We've looked at research in other cities that have put bike lanes in, and the lanes are a positive impact on business everywhere else, and we expect that will be the case in Vancouver. But it means some change to the traffic patterns.

"The partying in the streets was my favourite ... great concerts and arts and culture."
ROBERTSON ON HIS PERSONAL HIGHLIGHT OF THE OLYMPICS

Part of your platform included improvements to transit within Vancouver, what has been done?
It's at an impasse right now. The funding model is maxed and we need a lot more transit. The fares have been maxed out as well, and we don't support raising the fares. We need to see something like the carbon tax used to provide more buses and rapid transit.

One of your ambitions is to make Vancouver the greenest city in the world by 2020. What would you say to people who have to drive between cities for their business?
Electric vehicles are a big priority for us, and making sure we have charging infrastructure. We expect 15 per cent of vehicles to be electric by 2020, and that's what we're preparing for. We're lucky that we have hydroelectric power here, so it is a dramatic reduction in carbon emissions. And B.C. Hydro is working on increasing capacity to support electric vehicles in the future.

How soon do you think we might see the Olympic Village loan recouped?
Well it will take a couple years to sell through the units, and we won't really know the end result until 2012 at the earliest.

There are roughly 1,800 people either living on the street or in homeless shelters around the city. How do you plan to address that?
Well, we've made huge strides the last two years. We've reduced the street homeless count by 42 per cent, so about 450 people have moved from the street into the shelters. We've got a partnership with B.C. Housing that will open 1,500 units of social housing over the next couple of years. That'll help significantly to get people off the street and out of shelters.

KYLE FARQUHARSON

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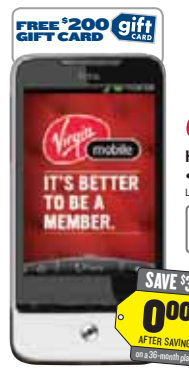

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News in brief

No decision yet in punching incident

TRIAL. A judge has reserved his decision in the trial of a Kelowna Mountie accused of punching a pregnant woman in the face during a raid on a drug house.

Const. Steve Conlon was charged with assault causing bodily harm after he and other officers entered the home following a shooting outside in February 2009.

In final arguments in Kelowna court, the Crown alleged Conlon deliberately punched Crystal Young in the face, while the defence argued Young was hit accidentally when the officer struck her pit bull dog, which was biting Conlon's arm.

Judge Edmond De Walle will make a decision in the case early in the new year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Police seek witnesses in road rage case

VIOLENCE. Vancouver police are appealing for witnesses to a Dec. 21 alleged road rage incident that escalated into physical violence.

The drivers of a Canada Post vehicle and a Honda Civic got into an altercation near West 18th and Cambie streets, according to an RCMP officer who was nearby.

Richard Harding, 31, of Vancouver is charged with assault.

KRISTEN THOMPSON

Chopper rescues hiker

STRANDED. A Cormorant helicopter braved heavy winds to rescue a stranded hiker from a peak above Lions Bay on the North Shore.

The man was hiking on the Howe Sound Trail when he became lost after dark. He was wearing a locator beacon.

KRISTEN THOMPSON

You can make this a green Christmas

Recycling can help cut down the half-million tonnes of waste Canadians will produce this Christmas

SARAH FITZGERALD
VANCOUVER@METRONEWS.CA

Santa Claus is about to begin delivering toys to all the girls and boys, but along with all those presents come a tonne of wrapping paper, bows and all sorts of packaging.

While sparkly holiday decorations are pretty, the Recycling Council of British Columbia (RCBC) recommends shoppers think environmentally when buying this year.

"Before purchasing a product, gift or any wrapping, check whether or not it can be recycled," says Harvinder Gill of RCBC. "Items like 100 per cent paper wrapping or Chinese cloth-wrapping techniques are great ideas."

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Dave Woogman shows the type of Styrofoam packaging included in London Drugs' recycling program.

For more difficult items, like Styrofoam, Gill recommends taking advantage of retailer recycling programs such as Bring Back the Pack offered by London Drugs.

"We encourage people to bring back the cardboard, Styrofoam packaging and the receipt from any product we sell, and we'll recycle them," says Dave Woogman, manager of the London Drugs store at Broadway and Cambie.

Recycling tips

Dos and don'ts of Christmas decorations:

Don't

- Buy items that can't be recycled, such as tinsel or embossed wrapping paper.
- Purchase items with excessive packaging if there's a reasonable alternative.
- Throw away recyclable items.

Do

- Bring your real tree to a tree-chipping event.
- Use reusable decorations: homemade gift bags, popcorn garlands.
- Utilize retail product packaging retake programs.

For more information on how to have a green Christmas, visit rcbc.bc.ca.

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Farmed salmon increase sea lice: Study

Another salvo has been fired in the battle over sea lice at fish farms on the B.C. Coast.

Just a week after a report was released clearing sea lice in the collapse of the pink salmon run in 2002, an environmental group is pointing to a new report that it says shows fish farms make the sea-lice problem worse.

Watershed Watch quotes a study by a New Zealand professor who looked at the growth of sea lice on two salmon farms in the Broughton Archipelago on the Central Coast, which is on the migration path of juvenile wild salmon.

The group says the study found that farmed salmon can lead to a sharp increase in sea lice in coastal waters.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Boom year for construction

An unprecedented number of bridge, highway and transit improvements were a boon for B.C.'s construction industry in 2010, Infrastructure Minister Shirley Bond said yesterday. In all, the province spent more than $2 billion on nearly 400 projects.

J.J. MCCULLOUGH

Celebrate the holidays at Robson Square

Enjoy free skating and live music

This winter, renew a classic Vancouver tradition and enjoy some old-fashioned fun.

Robson Square's outdoor skating rink is open, so celebrate winter in style with free skating, hot chocolate and live entertainment in the heart of downtown Vancouver.

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- Sunday to Thursday: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
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Holidays:

- December 24, 2010: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- December 25, 2010: Noon to 5 p.m.

Skate and helmet rentals, skate sharpening and a concession stand are available at the rink.

For more information, visit *www.yougottabehere.com*. Have a safe and happy holiday season.

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No appeal in twin sex assault case

Court agrees woman did not consent to sex with boyfriend's identical twin brother

A sexual assault case in which the victim thought she was having sex with a man's identical twin brother will not be heard by Canada's highest court.

The Supreme Court of Canada has denied the man, who cannot be named, leave to appeal his conviction.

After a party one night in September 2006 the woman, who had consumed most of a bottle of wine, went to sleep in the bed of a man with whom she had a consensual sexual relationship.

Appeals

The man appealed his sex assault conviction, saying the trial judge was wrong in finding the mistaken identity meant the woman didn't consent to sex.

Appeal declined The Court of Appeal for Ontario upheld his conviction earlier this year and yesterday the Supreme Court of Canada declined to hear his appeal of that decision.

Later, she awoke to someone having sex with her and assumed it was the man with whom she had a relationship.

She called out the man's name several times and when he said nothing throughout the act she turned on the light, only to discover it was the man's twin brother.

In the Ontario Appeal Court decision in June, the panel of judges wrote that the woman did not agree to sexual intercourse with anyone other than the man with whom she had a relationship.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Romania. Jumper

▶ The man was distraught that budget cuts had reduced benefits for his autistic teenage son.

BOGDAN STAMATIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Parliament interrupted

Adrian Sobaru throws himself from a balcony in Romania's parliament yesterday, just as the prime minister began to speak before a no-confidence vote. Sobaru suffered fractures to his face, and other non-life-threatening injuries, according to a hospital official. As emergency workers took him out on a stretcher, he shouted "Freedom!"

Supreme Court will hear music previews case

The Supreme Court has agreed to hear a case involving whether previews of music downloaded from the Internet should be subject to royalties. The Society of Composers, Authors and Music Publishers of Canada is suing Bell Canada, Rogers and other communications companies over copyright infringement. After losing the rights to royalties in 2007, the society took its case to the Federal Court of Appeal, which refused to hear it.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

30

In October 2007, the Copyright Board of Canada ruled that 30-second previews downloaded from the Internet don't infringe copyright and aren't subject to royalties.

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The 'lost and forgotten' Canadians

Canada behind Britain, France and U.S. in extricating citizens from foreign prisons: Lawyers

The tales of Canadians trapped in European airports made headlines this week. But hundreds of forgotten Canadians are trapped abroad for far longer, and some may never go home again.

They are people jailed, often through no fault of their own.

Most, if not all, have grieving families who are also held prisoner through fear for their loved ones.

Ottawa says it is well aware of cases of unjust imprisonment and is working behind the scenes to remedy them. But officials say that there are limits to what diplomacy can do and that the majority of the 1,000 or so Canadians behind bars in other countries were breaking those countries' laws.

Critics are not convinced.

"Unless these matters are raised with significant pressure they tend to drop out," says Dan McTeague, Liberal consular affairs critic. "Some of them are made more difficult by an incoherent Conservative ideology that hinders effective advocacy by the government in helping the lost and forgotten."

"Days come and go, but the pain and dejection remain," said Torontonian Antonella Mega, wife of Iranian prisoner Hamid Ghassemi-Shall.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES

Christmas. Bethlehem

▶ Catholic pilgrims hold candles at the Church of the Nativity, where many believe Jesus Christ was born, in Bethlehem.

TARA TODRAS-WHITEHILL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Room at the inn tonight?

So far this year, 1.4 million tourists have visited the traditional birthplace of Jesus and 90,000 are expected during the Christmas season, according to Israeli government figures.

Norwegian paper has full cache of cables

A Norwegian newspaper says it has obtained the entire trove of 250,000 uncensored U.S. diplomatic documents that WikiLeaks has been distributing.

The announcement appears to make Aftenposten the first media organization outside WikiLeaks' five partners to obtain the material — a development sure to heighten U.S. government fears that the release of some uncensored diplomatic cables could endanger informants' lives.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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CONTRIBUTED

▶ Surrey Mayor Dianne Watts

5 MINUTES WITH: DIANNE WATTS

Dianne Watts was elected mayor of Surrey in 2005, becoming the first woman in the city's history to hold the office. One of B.C.'s most popular politicians, she has been routinely courted for higher office.

You're regarded as one of the province's most high-profile political celebrities. Why do you think there's so much interest in you?
I think probably because I'm not a political person or play politics. For me, it's about getting the work done, effecting change, and making sure we have good public policy in place. So that's my focus — not how to get ahead politically.

Do you think of yourself as someone who has a strong ideology?
I have a strong sense of right and wrong, a value system, and a moral compass. That's what drives me. I think it's important to do the right thing as opposed to doing something that's popular, or something that moves you ahead politically.

A lot of the interest in you is obviously due to the fact that you are a strong female politician, which is fairly rare in Canada. Why don't we elect more women leaders?
Well, I would probably disagree with you on that front. If you look at female leaders like Carole James, Virginia Green, or Christy Clark you can certainly see that they have a lot to offer. I think that the challenge comes into play when you have a political environment that doesn't necessarily foster women getting into politics.

"For me, it's about getting the work done, effecting change ..."

What's keeping the women out?
I think for me, and many other women, it's about family and raising children and prioritizing your life in a way that works for you. Also, women don't like to get down and roll around in the gutter of the political arena. There's no necessity for it, there's no reason why that should even be part of politics. I think when many women look at what goes on, they decide they'd rather put their energy elsewhere.

J.J. MCCULLOUGH

Cartoon

MICHAEL DE ADDER

Up there Down Under

Worth mentioning

Mysterious lights in the sky and even a flying saucer are among the reported UFO sightings detailed in classified documents released by New Zealand's military this week.

The thousands of documents cover more than 50 years of New Zealanders' reports of encounters with unidentified flying objects.

Most files suggest natural explanations for the sightings, including meteors and reflections off boat lights.

Among the reports was one from a man who wrote a letter in 1955 to inform authorities he had seen flying saucers, even witnessing one take off.

The files also cover the country's best-known UFO mystery in 1978 in the southern island town of Kaikoura. A cargo plane reported strange lights following it and air traffic controllers detected radar blips they could not explain.

The documents showed the government carefully took note of such reports, even if some citizens only received a polite thanks for their theories.

New Zealand's Defence Force released the files Wednesday under a freedom-of-information request.

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Metro Minute at White Spot brunch

If you're looking for a place to eat on Christmas Day, why not have brunch with your family or friends while helping those less fortunate? White Spot will host its long-standing annual fundraising event Saturday. Staff give up their time to serve meals as a way of giving back to the community. This year, two White Spot restaurants and their staff will donate all wages, tips and profits to two charities, Richmond General Hospital Foundation and Variety The Children's Charity. Brunches will be held at the Richmond Centre (1902-6551 No. 3 Rd.) and Kingsway and Knight (1467 Kingsway) locations from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Visit whitespot.ca for more info.

AYAKA KAWAI

Three days to play

WHAT'S YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION?

Ashley Moffett
VANCOUVER
I haven't really thought about it much but it would probably be to do better in school.

Jack Jacub
VANCOUVER
I want to get back into running, and just be healthier.

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Overheated housing sector set to cool in '11

'We anticipate a fairly lacklustre year for residential housing, with modestly higher sales volumes': Expert

Canada's housing market was one of the best performers — and one of the most volatile — among advanced countries in 2010, but appears poised for a lacklustre turn next year, Scotia Economics says.

This year, Canada was among six of 12 countries studied that saw home prices increase, according to the bank's year-end Globe Real Estate Trends report issued Thursday. Other countries that saw price advances included Australia, the United Kingdom, France, Sweden and Switzerland.

Prices in the U.S. and Germany were flat, and those in Ireland, Italy, Japan and Spain fell.

In Canada, an unusually active winter and spring — prompted by pent-up demand coming out of the recession, along with expectations of rising interest rates and higher taxes being introduced in two provinces — gave way to an unusually soft summer.

Sales returned to a more typical, sustainable level in the fall.

Adrienne Warren, senior economist at Scotia Economics, predicts a more subdued Canadian market in 2011 as interest rates remain near historic lows, but in a climate of global economic uncertainty.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Housing stalls

- An International Monetary Fund report said Canada's overheated housing market combined with record levels of consumer debt are risks that could curtail future economic growth.
- It said Canada's housing sector has reached its peak and may be due for a correction, although a collapse is unlikely.
- The Canadian Real Estate Association has projected a 4.9 per cent slide in sales this year and a nine per cent decline next year.

Last minute. Flurry

▶ Maura Webster of Marlborough, Mass., tries to catch a snowflake on her tongue after Christmas shopping with her daughter Emma, 4, at Shopper's World in Framingham, Mass.

BILL GREENE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bingeing on snow and shopping

In many parts of the world, the holiday shopping season has been shortened by nasty weather that clogged traffic and delayed deliveries. For many retailers, hopes of rescuing the retail season rest on last-minute shoppers. A record number of nervous, credit-card-toting consumers are expected to jam malls and shops in the most intense shopping binge of the year.

Skype back after outage

OFFLINE. Internet calling and messaging service Skype SA mostly recovered Thursday from an outage caused by an undisclosed glitch, but problems lingered for its worldwide user base.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market moment

TSX	Dollar	Oil	Natural gas 1,000 cu ft	Gold contracts
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From superheroes to animated comedy to Oscar candidates, there are lots of great movie options in the first few months of 2011 Oh, and don't forget Justin Bieber ... in 3-D

Hollywood offers plenty of winter fun

STEVE GOW
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Winter may be upon us but at least there's warmth in the cinematic fire that's stirring in 2011. With the new year kicking off everything from dramatic festival favourites (Biutiful, 02/11) to a Roman epic adventure (The Eagle, 02/11), multiplexes will be warming up in 2011. Here's Metro's look at the most promising movies to hibernate with through the chilly season:

Other notable winter titles:

- Season of the Witch (01/07)
- The Dilemma (01/14)
- Another Year (01/14)
- The Company Men (01/21)
- Casino Jack (01/28)
- The Rite (01/28)
- The Mechanic (01/28)
- Big Mommas: Like Father, Like Son (02/18)
- The Adjustment Bureau (03/04)
- The Dark Fields (03/18)

Note: All release dates are subject to change and might be different in each market.

▶ The Green Hornet opens Jan. 14.

January

It all begins with Gwyneth Paltrow crooning away as a washed-up western singer in the redemptive drama **Country Strong** (01/07) and filmmaker Sofia Coppola (Lost in Translation) observing the lonelier side of being an A-list celebrity in **Somewhere** (01/07).

However, the action heats up when Seth Rogen debuts his masked crimefighter **The Green Hornet** (01/14) in a 3-D adaptation of the 1960s TV show. If critical darlings are your thing, Michelle Williams and Ryan Gosling quarrel as volatile lovers in **Blue Valentine** (01/07), while **Incendies** (01/21) Canada's submission to the Oscars, is a time-shifting drama that's racking up acclaim just in time for its release.

And where would January be without a fluffy rom-com? Worry not: Ashton Kutcher and Natalie Portman are platonic friends trying to maintain an aloof sexual arrangement in **No Strings Attached** (01/21). Didn't Seinfeld test this premise 20 years ago?

February

If you haven't seen enough of Stratford's biggest pop star yet, you can catch **Justin Bieber: Never Say Never** (02/11) in 3-D. Also in the third-dimension: the animated garden gnome comedy **Gnomeo and Juliet** (02/11) and **Drive Angry** (02/25) featuring Nicolas Cage as a very vengeful father.

Meanwhile, Adam Sandler convinces Jennifer Aniston to help him score in **Just Go With It** (02/11), while bored hubby Owen Wilson gets a **Hall Pass** (02/25) from his wife to have an affair.

But February is defined mostly by suspense, with films such as the college-themed horror flick **The Roommate** (02/04), sci-fi blockbuster **I Am Number Four** (02/18), Liam Neeson's mistaken-identity thriller **Unknown** (02/18) and the James Cameron-produced underwater nail-biter **Sanctum** (02/04).

▶ Liam Neeson stars in Unknown, which opens Feb. 18.

▶ Sucker Punch opens March 25.

March

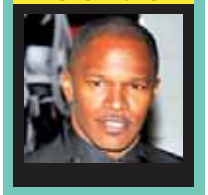
Johnny Depp kicks off the month voicing a gunslinging chameleon in the quirky animated comedy **Rango** (03/04), while other (partly) animated adventures offer friendly alien encounters in **Mars Needs Moms** (03/11) and **Paul** (03/18).

Serious literature gets the big-screen treatment with another cinematic makeover of Charlotte Brontë's classic **Jane Eyre** (03/11) and novelist Michael Connelly's adaptation of **The Lincoln Lawyer** (03/18). Meanwhile, Amanda Seyfried stars as the amped-up fairytale heroine **Red Riding Hood** (03/11).

Expect even more fantastical treats such as **Beastly** (03/18), a modern take on Beauty and the Beast, the dystopian thriller **Battle: Los Angeles** (03/11) and Watchmen-director Zack Snyder's multi-dimensional action-flick **Sucker Punch** (03/25) all aiming to ignite the springtime.

2 scene

News in brief



Call her the guardian angel of Jamie Foxx's music career. The Oscar and Grammy winner said Tuesday his 16-year-old daughter, Corinne, gave him the best advice when he began recording music.

"When I first started, I was doing this little slow music, you know, just R&B ... and my daughter walked in and said, 'What you doing?' I said, 'I'm working on the album.' She said, 'I hope you don't put that on there because you going to put everybody to sleep,'" Foxx said.

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After five-year wait, Gran Turismo 5 delivers the best (and worst) in video-game racing.

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Mirren enjoys films of a historical nature

- Oscar-winner plays an ex-Mossad agent and Nazi hunter in The Debt
- British actress with Russian background understands postwar suffering

▶ Helen Mirren stars in The Debt.

ANNE BRODIE
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Helen Mirren says she was compelled to make The Debt, a fact-based Holocaust drama about a former Mossad agent forced to confront her past as a Nazi hunter.

"This film, it's my history," Mirren says. "I was born after the war but only just, and I was brought up with (the war) very present in my youth. It was only 10 years before. It's like nothing when I think of it now."

Born Ilyena Mironov to a British mother and Russian father, Mirren wants to recognize what she calls "that profound part of living history. Americans in general have no idea of the suffering in Europe. It's still very much a part of the present. You can feel it."

Mirren is currently shooting The Door, in Hungary, set in the same war-weary milieu.

"I play this Hungarian peasant, a housekeeper, a cleaner," she says. "It's a kind of history of Hungary, a history of the suffering of the Hungarian people through World War II, through Communism, and so I think that's what she symbolizes. It's quite heavy and quite surreal and quite Hungarian."

On a lighter note, Mirren addresses her recent upsurge in popularity, her film roles and that sex-symbol vibe.

"I guess it's a good thing," she says, laughing. "But all things pass. We can't get wedded to anything, and I hope the public doesn't get wedded to it either, because then they get really cross with you when it's not the case anymore. Somehow it's your fault, you know!

"And I expect that to happen any minute. They'll say, 'She used to be sexy. What happened? How could she have done this to us?'"

A busy 2010

▶ Helen Mirren in Red.

The hard-working actress has had a busy 2010 starring in six very different movies.

- **Red.** Mirren gets a chance to show off her action skills in the star-studded spy film.
- **Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole.** Mirren lends her voice to this animated adventure about owls trying to protect the owl kingdom.
- **The Tempest.** Mirren takes on the traditionally male role of Prospero in Shakespeare's tale.
- **Love Ranch.** Mirren plays a madam in the story of the first legal brothel in the United States.
- **Brighton Rock.** This TIFF release is based on a novel by Graham Greene.

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Jeff Craig, SIXTY SECOND PREVIEW
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Movie review See it twice ●●●●● | See it now ●●●● | Worth watching ●●● | Yawn ●● | Don't bother ●

Gulliver's Travels
Genre: Comedy
Director: Rob Letterman
Stars: Jack Black, Jason Segel, Amanda Peet
●

Jack Black's latest film might be called Gulliver's Travels, but the only things it shares with Jonathan Swift's masterful satire is the title, the land of little people named Lilliput and a scene in which Gulliver empties his bladder to put out a fire.

Unless there's a giant robot battle not available in most editions of the novel, it has to be assumed that no one involved with this production bothered to read it. Instead they decided it would be a good idea to have a giant Jack Black try to teach an 18th-century society about Star Wars. Somehow, against all odds, the final movie turned out to be even worse than that description sounds.

The once entertaining Black hasn't found a project suited to his skills since School Of Rock, and it's painful to watch him embarrass himself as a slacker mail clerk who is transported to Lilliput through the Bermuda Triangle (no exaggeration, that's what happens). This abysmal movie is so ill conceived that it's hard to imagine even young children being forgiving enough to find it entertaining. ● PHIL BROWN

NOT YOUR REGULAR XMAS

In Focus

RICHARD CROUSE
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

These days the malls are festooned with Christmas decorations by October, and Starbucks has its yuletide mugs out before the leaves have even turned. Last year a new version of A Christmas Carol opened in early November, and on TV A Christmas Story played for 24 solid hours on Dec. 25. It's easy to get Christmased-out long before the big day rolls around. There's too much tinsel, too many in-your-face Santas, but for movie fans it's possible to get a taste of the holidays without having to watch James Stewart contemplate ending it all. Here are some Christmas movies for people who don't like Christmas movies:

Creepy Christmas

There are dozens of Christmas horror films with names like Silent Night, Deadly Night, but they're still too Christmasy for this list. I'm thinking more along the lines of American Psycho: who can forget Wall Street serial killer Patrick Bateman (Christian Bale) wearing reindeer antlers? Or, for that matter, the Christmas Eve viral outbreak that decimates the planet in I Am Legend.

Noel Noir

Lots of action/crime movies use Christmas as a setting, so much so that Die Hard and its sequel, both set on Christmas Eve, are regularly played as part of TV Christmas marathons. Others you may have forgotten are Lethal Weapon (Jingle Bell Rock plays during the opening credits), Goodfellas (The Ronettes sing Frosty the Snowman during a Christmas party and L.A. Confidential, which opens on "Bloody" Christmas, 1951, when dozens of policemen beat seven incarcerated Latino men.

You Sleigh Me

Looking for holiday laughs? According to Monty Python's The Meaning of Life, every day in Heaven is Christmastime, complete with dancers dressed as sexy Santas. In Trading Places we first see Dan Aykroyd drunk and decked out as Santa on a bus eating crusted food stuck in his beard. Even funnier is Ferdinand the duck's alarming exclamation "Christmas means carnage!" in the movie Babe.

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855 Granville St., 604-684-4000
Burlesque (PG) Sun 4:35-7:05-9:40 Mon-Thu 5:35-8:25
Due Date (PG) Sun 4:30-6:55-9:40 Mon-Thu 5:30-8:15
Fair Game (PG) Sun 4:10-6:45-9:15 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:05
The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest (14A) Sun 4:40-8 Mon-Thu 8
Inside Job (PG) Sun 4:15-6:40-9:30 Mon-Thu 5:45-8:10
Love & Other Drugs (14A) Sun 4:20-6:50-9:20 Mon-Thu 5:50-8:30
Megamind (G) Sun 4:25-7 Mon-Thu 5:50
Red (PG) Sun 9:35 Mon-Thu 8:20

HOLLYWOOD THEATRE
3123 W. Broadway, 604-738-3211
hollywoodtheatre.ca
Farewell (STC) Sun 1:30-7:30 Mon-Thu 7:30
Joan Rivers: A Piece of Work (PG) Sun 3:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 9:30
No Films Showing Today (STC) Fri-Sat

OAKRIDGE
650 West 41st Ave., 604-263-1944
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (PG) Dolby Stereo Dig

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562 Clarke Rd, Unit E (at Como Lake)

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Westminster Centre

Richmond
8180 No 2 Rd, Unit 128
Aberdeen Mall
Admiralty Centre
Lansdowne Mall
Presidents Plaza

Surrey
10255 King George Blvd
8128 - 128th St, Unit 306
Central City Mall
Guildford Place
Payal Business Centre

Vancouver
568 Dunsmuir St
2390 East Hastings St
6330 Fraser St, Unit 105
8520 Granville St
1463 Kingsway Ave
3081 Main St
526 West Broadway
Broadway & Commercial Skytrain Station
Harbour Centre
il Mercato Mall
Tinseltown

Digital Fri 1:15-4:15 Dolby Stereo Digital Sat 7:15-9:55 Dolby Stereo Digital Sun-Thu 1:15-4:15-7:15-9:55
Little Fockers (PG) DTS Digital, No Passes Fri 1:30-4:30 DTS Digital, No Passes Sat 7-9:30 DTS Digital, No Passes Sun-Thu 1:30-4:30-7-9:30
Tron: Legacy (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Fri 1-3:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Sat 6:45-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Sun-Thu 1-3:50-6:45-9:45

PACIFIC CINÉMATHÈQUE
1131 Howe Street, 604-688-3456
cinematheque.bc.ca

The Apartment (STC) Tue 8:50 Wed 7
Flight of the Red Balloon (G) Sun-Mon 6:30
Gentlemen Prefer Blondes (STC) Mon 8:45 Tue 5 Wed 9:20 Thu 7
How to Marry a Millionaire (STC) Tue 7 Thu 5
Let's Make Love (STC) Wed 4:30 Thu 8:45
No Films Showing Today (STC) Fri-Sat
The Red Balloon (STC) Sun-Mon 3:30-3:30
White Mane (STC) Sun-Mon 5

PARK THEATRE
3440 Cambie Street, 604-876-2747

The King's Speech (PG) Fri 1:30-4:7 Sat 4:7-9:30 Sun-Thu 1:30-4:7-9:30

RIDGE THEATRE
3131 Arbutus Street, 604-738-6311

The Tourist (PG) Fri 1:30-4:7 Sat 4:7-9:15 Sun-Thu 1:30-4:7-9:15

RIO ON BROADWAY
1660 E. Broadway, 604-878-Film
riotheatre.ca

Tron: Legacy 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-4-6:45-9:30

SCOTIABANK THEATRE VANCOUVER
900 Burrard St., 604-630-1407

Black Swan (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:40-1:20-3:50-4:30-7:10-7:40-10:10:30
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4-7:05-10:05
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (PG) Fri-Thu 11:45-3:10-6:40-10:15
How Do You Know (PG) Fri-Thu 12:10-3:15-6:45-9:40
The King's Speech (PG) Fri-Thu 12-3:20-6:50-9:50
Tron: Legacy 3D (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:20-12:50-3:40-4:10-7:7:30-10:10-10:40
True Grit (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:10-4:20-7:20-10:20

VANCITY THEATRE
Vancouver International Film Centre
1181 Seymour Street,
604-683-Film
vifc.ca

Barry Lyndon (STC) Wed 2:30
Boogie Nights (STC) Thu 6:30
I, Don Giovanni (STC) Tue 6
Lawrence of Arabia (STC) Mon 1:30-6:30
No Films Showing Today (STC) Sat
NY Export: Opus Jazz (STC) Fri 1 Tue 1:15
Paprika (PG) Thu 4:15
Remember the Night (STC) Sun 3:15-6:45 Wed 6:30
The Shop Around the Corner (STC) Sun 1:30-5 Wed 8:15
Tokyo Godfathers (STC) Thu 2:30
West Side Story (STC) Fri 2:15 Tue 2:30

VAN EAST CINEMA
2290 Commercial Drive, 604-251-1313
vaneast.com

Listings not available at press time.

NORTH SHORE

ESPLANADE 6
200 West Esplanade, 604-983-2762

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (PG) Fri 12:40-4:7:45 Sat 4-7:45 Sun-Thu 12:40-4-7:45
How Do You Know (PG) No Passes Fri 1:15-4:25-7:10 Sat 4:25-7:10-9:55 No Passes Sun 1:15-4:25-7:10-9:55 Mon-Thu 1:15-4:25-7:10-9:55
Tangled (STC) Fri 1:30-4:40-7:20 Sat 4:40-7:20-9:50 Sun-Thu 1:30-4:40-7:20-9:50
Tron: Legacy (PG) No Passes Fri 12:50-3:50-6:50 No Passes Sat 3:50-6:50-9:45 No Passes Sun 12:50-3:50-6:50-9:45 Mon-Thu 12:50-3:50-6:50-9:45
True Grit (14A) No Passes Fri 1-4:10-7 No Passes Sat 4:10-7-9:40 No Passes Sun-Thu 1-4:10-7-9:40
Yogi Bear (G) No Passes Fri 1:45-4:15-6:35 No Passes Sat 4:15-6:35-9:20 No Passes Sun 1:45-4:15-6:35-9:20 Mon-Thu 1:45-4:15-6:35-9:20

PARK & TILFORD
333 Brooksbank Ave., 604-985-3911

Black Swan (14A) No Passes Fri 1:30-4:10-7 No Passes Sat 4:10-7-9:40 No Passes Sun-Thu 1:30-4:10-7-9:40
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader 3D (PG) Fri 1:30-6:40 Sat 3:40-6:40-9:20 Sun-Thu 1:30-6:40-9:20
The Fighter (14A) Fri 1:40-4:20-7:10 Sat 4:20-7:10-9:50 Sun-Thu 1:40-4:20-7:10-9:50
Gulliver's Travels 3D (G) No Passes Sat 4-6:30-9:10 No Passes Sun-Thu 1:20-4-6:30-9:10
Little Fockers (PG) No Passes Fri 1:50-4:30-7:20 No Passes Sat 4:30-7:20-10 No Passes Sun-Thu 1:50-4:30-7:20-10
Megamind 3D (G) Fri 1:20-4-6:30
The Tourist (PG) Fri 1:10-3:50-6:50 Sat 3:50-6:50-9:30 Sun-Thu 1:10-3:50-6:50-9:30

RICHMOND

RICHMOND CENTRE 6
6551 #3 Road, 604-273-7173

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (PG) Fri 1:35-4:30-7:10 Sat 4:30-7:10-9:45 Sun 1:35-4:30-7:10-9:45 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:10-9:45
How Do You Know (PG) Fri 1:20-4:15-7:05 Sat 4:15-7:05-9:50 Sun 1:20-4:15-7:05-9:50 Mon-Thu 4:15-7:05-9:50
Little Fockers (PG) No Passes Fri 1:40-4:35-7:15 No Passes Sat 4:35-7:15-9:40 No Passes Sun 1:40-4:35-7:15-9:40 No Passes Mon-Thu 4:35-7:15-9:40
Tron: Legacy (PG) No Passes Fri 1:15-4:10-7 No Passes Sat 4:10-7-9:55 No Passes Sun 1:15-4:10-7-9:55 No Passes Mon-Thu 4:10-7-9:55
True Grit (14A) No Passes Fri 1:30-4:25-7:20 No Passes Sat 4:25-7:20-10 No Passes Sun 1:30-4:25-7:20-10 No Passes Mon-Thu 4:25-7:20-10
Yogi Bear (G) No Passes Fri 1:25-4:20-6:55 No Passes Sat 4:20-6:55-9:05 No Passes Sun 1:25-4:20-6:55-9:05 No Passes Mon-Thu 4:20-6:55-9:05

SILVERCITY RIVERPORT
14211 Entertainment Way,
604-272-7280

Black Swan (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-3:35-7:10:20
Burlesque (PG) Fri-Thu 9:45
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:55-7:10
Fei Cheng Wu Rao II (STC) Fri-Thu 12-3:40-7:15-10:35
The Fighter (14A) Fri-Thu 12:45-4:15-7:35-10:40
Gulliver's Travels 3D (G) No Passes Sat-Thu 11:05-1:45-4:20-7-9:40
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (PG) Fri-Thu 11:45-3:25-7:20-10:45
How Do You Know (PG) Fri-Thu 12:25-3:35-7:05-10:15
The King's Speech (PG) Fri-Thu 12:15-3:45-6:50-9:50
Little Fockers (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 11-11:30-1:40-2:15-4:30-5:7-10-7:45-10:10-10:45
Tangled (STC) Fri-Thu 11:15-2-4:45-7:30-10:30
Tangled 3D (G) Fri 12:30-3:30-6:45-9:30
Tees Maar Khan (STC) Fri 11:55-3:20-6:50-10:35 Sat-Thu 11:55-3:20-6:55-10:35
The Tourist (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4:05-7:25-10:25
Tron: Legacy (PG) No Passes Fri 11:50-3:15-6:40-10:05 No Passes Sat 11:55-3:15-6:40-10:05 No Passes Sun-Thu 11:50-3:15-6:40-10:05
Tron: Legacy 3D (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-4-7:15-10:30
Tron: Legacy: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:1:50-4:40-7:30-10:20
True Grit (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:15-4:20-7:40-10:45
Yogi Bear (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:20-1:50-4:25-6:55
Yogi Bear 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:05-2:30-5:7:30-9:55

BURNABY

DOLPHIN CINEMAS
4555 E. Hastings St., 604-293-0332

Little Fockers (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-2:35-4:45-6:50-9
Yogi Bear (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-2:30-4:30-6:30-8:30

SILVERCITY METROPOLIS
4700 Kingsway Ave., 604-435-7474

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4-7:20-10:05
The Fighter (14A) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:55-6:50-9:55
Gulliver's Travels 3D (G) No Passes Sat-Thu 12:25-2:40-5-7:35-10:15
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (PG) Fri-Thu 12-3:10-6:30-9:50
How Do You Know (PG) Fri 12:25-3:35-7:30-10:15
Little Fockers (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:55-2:20-4:50-7:45-10:30
Tangled (STC) Sat-Thu 12:50-3:50-6:45-9:20
Tangled 3D (G) Fri 12:50-3:50-6:45-9:20
The Tourist (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:15-7:25-10:20
Tron: Legacy 3D (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-3:40-7:10:10
True Grit (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:45-3:30-7:05-10
Yogi Bear 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:15-2:30-4:45-7:15-9:30

STATION SQUARE
220-6200 McKay Ave., 604-434-7711

Burlesque (PG) Fri 4:15-7:15 Sat 4:20-7:20-10:20 Sun 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:20 Mon-Thu 4:20-7:20-10:20
Due Date (PG) Fri 4:30-7:30 Sat-Thu 7:30-10:30
Fei Cheng Wu Rao II (STC) Fri 4:05-7 Sat 4:05-7:10 Sun 1:05-4-7:10 Mon-Thu 4:05-7:10
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (PG) Fri 4-7:05 Sat 4-7:05-10:10 Sun 1-4:05-7:10-10:15 Mon-Thu 4-7:05-10:10
How Do You Know (PG) Sat 4:15-7:15-10:15 Sun 1:15-4:15-7:15-10:10 Mon-Thu 4:15-7:15-10:15
Love & Other Drugs (14A) Fri 4:20-7:20 Sat 4:25-7:25-10:25 Sun 1:25-4:25-7:25-10:25 Mon-Thu 4:25-7:25-10:25
Megamind (G) Fri 4:25-7:25 Sat 4:30 Sun 1:30-4:30 Mon-Thu 4:30
The Social Network (PG) Fri 4:10-7:10 Sat 4:10-7:10-10:05 Sun 1:10-4:10-7:05-10:05 Mon-Thu 4:10-7:10-10:05

NEW WEST/ COQUITLAM

SILVERCITY COQUITLAM
170 Schoolhouse Street, 604-523-2911

Black Swan (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-3:30-6:40-9:25
Burlesque (PG) Fri-Thu 12:10-3:30-6:45-9:45
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:40-6:55
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4:15-7:30-10:30
Due Date (PG) Fri-Thu 9:35
Fei Cheng Wu Rao II (STC) Fri-Thu 12:15-3:20-6:35-9:25
The Fighter (14A) Fri-Thu 12:25-3:50-7:10:15
Gulliver's Travels (G) No Passes Sat-Thu 12:20-2:45-5:05-7:20-9:40
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (PG) Fri-Thu 12-3:25-6:40-10
How Do You Know (PG) Fri-Thu 1:05-4:10-7:20-10:25
The King's Speech (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:40-6:35-9:40
Little Fockers (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:40-1:20-3:40-4:20-6:45-7:15-9:50-10:10
Love & Other Drugs (14A) Fri-Thu 9:40
Tangled (STC) Fri-Thu 12-2:25-4:55-7:20-9:55
Tangled 3D (G) Fri 12:45-4:30-7:40-10:30
The Tourist (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:05-7:25-10:20
Tron: Legacy (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12-3:25-6:45-10
Tron: Legacy 3D (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:45-4:7:15-9:50-10:10
True Grit (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:10-1:15-3:35-4:10-6:30-7:05-9:35-10:05
Yogi Bear (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:05-2:15-4:45-6:55
Yogi Bear 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:35-2:45-5:15-7:25-9:35

SURREY/WHITE ROCK/LANGLEY

CLOVA
5732-176th St., Surrey, 604-541-9527

Listings not available at press time.

HOLLYWOOD 3 CINEMA
7125-138th Street, Surrey,
604-592-4441

Alpha and Omega (G) Fri-Thu 12:30
Burlesque (PG) Fri-Thu 4:45-7
Despicable Me (G) Fri-Thu 2:45
Due Date (PG) Fri-Thu 7:05
Faster (14A) Fri-Thu 8:50
Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole (G) Fri-Thu 2:45
Megamind (G) Fri-Thu 12:30-2:45-4:45-6:45
Red (PG) Fri-Thu 9:15
Secretariat (G) Fri-Thu 12:30-4:45
The Social Network (PG) Fri-Thu 9

STRAWBERRY HILL GRANDE
12161-72nd Ave, Surrey, 604-501-9400

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:15-7:15-10
The Fighter (14A) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:20-7:50-10:40
Gulliver's Travels (G) No Passes Sat-Thu 12:10-2:30-4:50-7:20-9:50
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (PG) Fri-Thu 12:20-3:40-7:10-10:30
How Do You Know (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:20-6:30-9:40
Little Fockers (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:45-10:20
No Problem (PG) Fri 12:10-3:25-6:55-10:15
Tangled (STC) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:50-6:45-9:20
Tees Maar Khan (STC) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:45-7-10:10
The Tourist (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:30-6:40-9:30
Tron: Legacy 3D (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 1-4-7:30-10:35
True Grit (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:20-4:10-7:40-10:25
Yogi Bear 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Sat 12-2:15-4:30-6:50-9:10 No Passes Sun 12:25-2:35-4:45-6:50-9:10 No Passes Mon-Thu 12-2:15-4:30-6:50-9:10

STUDIO 12 GUILDFORD
15051-101st Ave, Surrey, 604-581-1176

Black Swan (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 12:15-3:50-7:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 3:50-7:10-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 12:15-3:50-7:10-9:45
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader 3D (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 12:30-3:45-7:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 3:45-7:15-10:05 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 12:30-3:45-7:15-10:05
The Fighter (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 12:50-4:25-7:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 4:25-7:30-10:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 12:50-4:25-7:30-10:20
Gulliver's Travels (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 4:05-7:05-9:35 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 12:25-4:05-7:05-9:35
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 12:20-3:30-6:40
How Do You Know (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 12:40-4:15-7:20-10:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat 4:15-7:20-10:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sun 12:40-4:15-7:20-10:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:40-4:15-7:20-10:10
The King's Speech (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 3:30-6:40-9:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 12:20-3:30-6:40-9:50
Little Fockers (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri 12:45-4:10-6:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Sat 4:10-6:50-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 12:45-4:10-6:50-9:30
Tangled (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 12:25-4:05-7:05
Tees Maar Khan (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 12:05-3:35-6:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 3:35-6:30-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 12:05-3:35-6:30-9:40
The Tourist (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 2:10-3:40-6:35 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 3:40-6:35-9:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 12:10-3:40-6:35-9:20
Tron: Legacy (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri 1-4-7 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Sat 4-7:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Sun 1-4-7:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1-4-7:10
True Grit (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri 12:35-4:20-7:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Sat 4:20-7:25-10:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 12:35-4:20-7:25-10:15
Yogi Bear 3D (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri 12-2:15-4:30-6:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Sat 4:30-6:45-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Sun 12-2:15-4:30-6:45-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12-2:15-4:30-6:45-9:10

RIALTO
1732-152nd Street, White Rock,
604-541-9527, criterontheatres.com

The Tourist (PG) Fri 2:10 Sun-Thu 2:10-7:10-9:15
True Grit (14A) Fri 2 Sun-Thu 2-7-9:10

CRITERION 4 WHITE ROCK
2381 King George Highway,
604-531-7456, criterontheatres.com

Listings not available at press time.

COLOSSUS LANGLEY
20090-91A Ave, Langley, 604-513-8747

Black Swan (14A) No Passes Fri 12:10-3:40-7:25 No Passes Sat-Thu 12:10-3:40-7:25-10:25
Burlesque (PG) Sat-Thu 10:05
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (PG) Fri 12:05-3:05-6:40 Sat-Thu 12:05-3:05-6:40-9:30
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader 3D (PG) Fri 1-4-7:15 Sat-Thu 1-4-7:15-10
Due Date (PG) Sat-Thu 9:35
The Fighter (14A) Fri 12:50-4:10-7:30 Sat-Thu 12:50-4:10-7:30-10:40
Gulliver's Travels 3D (G) No Passes Sat-Thu 11:55-2:30-5-7:25-10
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (PG) Fri 12:15-3:45-7:10 Sat-Thu 12:15-3:45-7:10-10:35
How Do You Know (PG) Fri 12:25-3:50-7:05 Sat-Thu 12:25-3:50-7:05-10:10
The King's Speech (PG) Fri 12:20-3:25-7:05 Sat-Thu 12:20-3:25-7:05-10:15
Little Fockers (PG) No Passes Fri 12:35-1:25-3:35-4:20-7:10-7:40 No Passes Sat-Thu 12:35-1:25-3:35-4:20-7:10-7:40-9:45-10:30
Tangled (STC) Fri-Thu 11:1:45-4:35-7:35
Tangled 3D (G) Fri 12:55-4:10-6:55 Sat-Thu 12:55-4:10-6:55-9:55
The Tourist (PG) Fri 12:45-3:55-6:55 Sat-Thu 12:45-3:55-6:55-9:50
Tron: Legacy (PG) No Passes Fri 11:30-3-6:30 No Passes Sat-Thu 12-3:30-7:10:45
Tron: Legacy 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 12:12:30-3:30-4:05-7:7:45 No Passes Sat-Thu 12:30-4:05-7:45-11
Tron: Legacy: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) No Passes Fri 11:1:50-4:40-7:30 No Passes Sat-Thu 11:1:50-4:40-7:30-10:20
True Grit (14A) No Passes Fri 12:40-3:55-7:20 No Passes Sat-Thu 12:40-3:55-7:20-10:20
Yogi Bear (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:10-1:40-4:15-6:45
Yogi Bear 3D (G) No Passes Fri 11:40-2:10-4:40-7:20 No Passes Sat-Thu 11:40-2:10-4:40-7:20-9:40

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Listings not available at press time.

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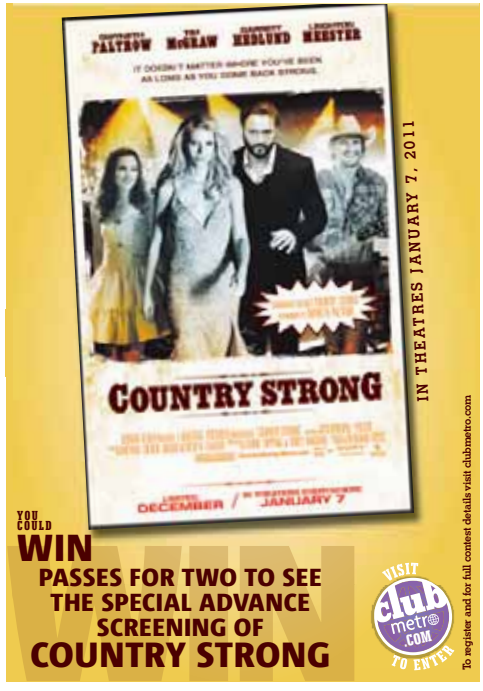
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7th heaven

MICHAEL
MUSIC

Michael Jackson is the King of Pop — still. Though he's not No. 1 on North American music charts, Jackson's album sold more than 3 million units worldwide. Jackson debuted at No. 1 in Germany, Italy, Sweden and the Netherlands.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHRISTMAS
CULTURE

Remember when you didn't get what you wanted for Christmas? Well, take a look at this YouTube video of a young kid who is given books by his parents. The reaction is hilarious — if not a little over-the-top. youtube.com/watch?v=O3ceZqtDg34 METRO

PAULY D
TV

MTV announced this week it signed a deal with Jersey Shore disc jockey Paul (DJ Pauly D) DelVecchio to star in his own spinoff based on footage filmed of the self-proclaimed "guido" in September.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JUSTIN BIEBER
INTERNET

No one had more video views online in 2010 than pop star Justin Bieber. Music video website Vevo has named the 10 most-viewed clips of the year and Bieber took the top spot and two other positions on the list. Baby, with Ludacris, came in first. It was viewed more than 416 million times.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WILLIAM AND KATE
ROYALTY

They've been engaged for less than a month but William and Kate: A Royal Love Story is now on bookshelves. The tome is written by Christopher Andersen, who also wrote The Day Diana Died.
METRO

THE ROGUE'S HANDBOOK
BOOKS

Looking for that last-minute holiday gift for the man in your life? The Rogue's Handbook is a concise etiquette guide for the aspiring gentleman.
METRO

FANTASTIC FOUR
COMICS

Looks like the Fantastic Four will soon be the Terrific Three. Marvel is trimming its flagship Fantastic Four to a mere trio in January as death comes calling on comics' first family. But whom will it be? Mr. Fantastic, the Invisible Woman, Human Torch or The Thing? Readers will find out for themselves when Fantastic Four No. 587 is released next month. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mix of Six

Wonderland
Bright Nights in Stanley Park

Be transported to a wonderland world with two million sparkling lights and Christmas music in Stanley Park. The event runs both Friday and Sunday from 3 until 9 p.m. Admission is $9 for adults and $6 for children. Visit vancouver.ca/parks for details.

Lights
Trinity Street Christmas Lights

Enjoy the splendor of sparkling lights with a walk through the 2400-2900 blocks of Trinity Street and enjoy the popular Vancouver Christmas tradition. Don't forget to vote for your favorite house and block.

Lights
Cayon Lights

The suspension bridge and its park are enchanted with more than 250,000 sparkling lights. Visitors will enjoy seasonal music, ginger cookie decorations and glass-ornament blowing. It runs both Friday and Sunday from 5 to 9 p.m. Admissions are $15 for adults and $5 for children. Visit capbridge.com for more information.

Skating
Ice Skating at Robson Square

If you haven't gone ice skating this winter, bring your family and friends downtown. Free skating runs the whole weekend from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday and Sunday and on Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. Rental skates are available for $3.

Christmas trees
Recycle Christmas trees

Drop off Christmas trees and support educational programs at the UBC Botanical garden. The Christmas trees recycling program runs through this Sunday until Jan. 9 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. A donation of $5 is suggested. Visit ubcbotanicalgarden.org for details.

Market
Christmas Market

Rush to the Queen Elizabeth Theatre on Friday for your last chance to experience the traditional German Christmas market. Visitors will be fascinated by the smells of tasty foods and splendid arts and crafts. It runs from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admissions are $5 for adults and $2 for children age seven to 12. Visit vancouverchristmasmarket.com for details.

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392

Jolie comment badly Handled?

Comedienne Chelsea Handler a friend of Jennifer Aniston's Handler reportedly called Jolie a 'homewrecker' over relationship with Aniston's ex

It looks like Chelsea Handler's outspoken rant about Angelina Jolie may have cost her a friendship with Jennifer Aniston, according to Popeater.

"Jen and Chelsea haven't officially fallen out, but they certainly won't be going on vacation together for a long time unless Chelsea promises to never talk about Angelina again," a source says.

"She understands that what Chelsea did was out of loyalty, but it didn't help. In fact, it made things worse. Jen is a very private person."

METRO

▶ Chelsea Handler

Lindsay's mom lashes out at rehab worker

Dina Lohan is striking back at Dawn Holland, the Betty Ford Center worker who was dismissed after speaking to the press about an altercation with Lindsay Lohan, according to TMZ.

"With all the fabulous employees they have, it's unfortunate that someone with this kind of background gets through," Dina says.

Holland had claimed that Dina was on the phone with Lindsay at the time of their scuffle, telling her daughter to refuse a Breathalyzer test.

▶ Dina Lohan

"I stand behind my daughter 100 per cent. The whole thing with the woman is a little sketchy," Dina says. METRO

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News in brief

Schwimmer, wife expecting first child

FAMILY. David Schwimmer is going to be a dad.

The former Friends star and his wife, Zoe Buckman, are expecting their first child, according to Entertainment Weekly. "They couldn't be more thrilled," Schwimmer's rep says.

"Everyone is overjoyed for them," a source tells Bang Showbiz. METRO

Williams opens up about Ledger's death

Michelle Williams is speaking publicly about the death of Heath Ledger for the first time since her ex's passing almost three years ago, telling ABC News she "got kind of obsessed with that for a while, the before and after," during a tearful interview.

"I can't find a meaning for it," said the actress, whose relationship with Ledger blossomed when the two were filming Brokeback Mountain.

"I can find meanings in things and people and relationships that have sprung up and friendships that have strengthened. I can find a lot of meaning in that, but not in why."

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Michelle Williams and Heath Ledger

The couple had a daughter, Matilda, who is now five years old.

METRO

Kelly Osbourne sticks up for Miley

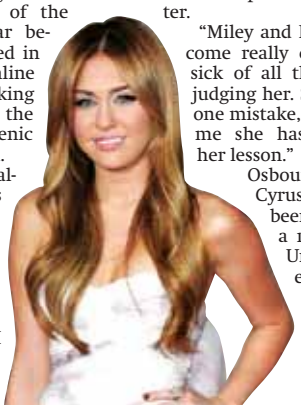
Kelly Osbourne is coming to Miley Cyrus' defence in the wake of the Disney star being featured in an online video smoking a bong of the hallucinogenic drug salvia.

"This really makes me mad. Miley is one of the most hard working respectful women I have ever worked with I am learning a lot from her," Osbourne posted on Twitter.

"Miley and I have become really close. I'm sick of all the haters judging her. She made one mistake, and trust me she has learned her lesson."

Osbourne and Cyrus have been filming a movie, So Undercover, together in New Orleans.

METRO



Seasonal sippers

The results are in! Canadians love their libations this time of year

NEWS CANADA

Festive glassware can add some spirit to your spirits.

Are holiday tipples an important part of the festive season? According to 82 per cent of Canadians, the answer is yes!

In a recent poll commissioned by Evangeline PR, more than 80 per cent of Canadians indicated that a glass of festive merriment is a yuletide must.

"Canadians love to celebrate during the holidays and mouth-watering cocktails (or mocktails) make the season that much more festive," says Sherri Zielinski, president of Evangeline PR.

To ensure your seasonal sips are a smashing success, here are the Top 10 tips to ensure your bar is holiday-ready:

• Ice is nice: Make extra and store it: you can never have too much.

• If you don't have a bar, consider purchasing a bar cart: it ensures more time is spent with your guests and not in the kitchen.

• Purchase festive-themed glassware in which to serve your tipples.

• Decorate your bar with colours of the season such as a red velvet underlay and a green or gold overlay.

• Stock up on seasonal garnishes such as cinnamon sticks, cranberries and candy canes to transform any drink into a holiday masterpiece.

• For no muss, no fuss cocktails, choose flavoured vodkas such as Three Olives Bubble that can be served alone, with pink lemonade or lemon-lime soda for a quick, two-ingredient delicious cocktail.

• Serve up some nostalgia with soda-fountain bar drinks from yesteryear. Try Three Olives Root Beer vodka and treat your guests to a grown-up root-beer float.

• Create a custom menu with fun drink names; place in a holiday frame to display on your bar.

• Keep a slush bucket near your bar for leftovers when a sink isn't nearby or convenient.

• Drink responsibly: invite guests to stay overnight or pre-order taxis. **NEWS CANADA**

Float Santa's Boat

Preparation:

1. In a frosted mug, add Three Olives Root Beer vodka and fill with club soda. Add 1 or 2 scoops of ice cream to the top. Garnish with whipped cream and a cherry
2. In an ice-filled rocks glass, add Three Olives Bubble vodka along with pink lemonade. Float a couple of fresh cranberries on top and garnish with a small candy cane.

Ingredients:

- 2 oz. Three Olives Root Beer Vodka
- 1-2 scoops Vanilla Ice Cream
- Club soda
- Maraschino cherry garnish
- 2 oz. Three Olives Bubble Vodka
- 2 oz. Pink lemonade
- Fresh cranberries
- Candy cane garnish

Thinking beyond the cane

Colourful candies can be so much more than just a yummy treat at Christmastime

NEWS CANADA

A few leftover sweets can make for an instant tree decoration.

Gingerbread, gumdrops, chocolates and shortbread ... the holidays wouldn't be the same without those special nostalgic treats to satisfy our yuletide sweet tooth.

According to Madeleine Johari, Canadian caterer and candy expert, "Sweets spark fond memories of the holidays more than any other food."

Johari says "distinctive flavours such as bubble gum, root beer, licorice and peppermint conjure up images of holidays past that inspire us to reminisce with friends and family. And that's what the holidays are all about!"

For some creative ways to incorporate nostalgic sweets into your holiday celebrations and create edible memories to last a lifetime, Johari recommends the following:

• Thread gumballs on a long piece of string to make a festive and colourful garland for your tree. It's also a great reward in January when it's time to take the decorations down.

• Create edible straws for drinks by replacing the plastic ones with licorice sticks for an extra sweet finish.

• Accessorize with sweets: on a silver platter, offer guests a selection of candy necklaces, rings, bracelets and more for easy access to the seductive smell and taste of sweets all night long: this is a kids favourite! **NEWS CANADA**

3 life

Christmas past

It's unanimous: Canadians prefer traditional Christmas celebrations to modern ones, so move over, Jonas Brothers ... Elvis is still King — at least during the holidays.

"The holidays are a time for nostalgia," says Canadian caterer Madeleine Johari. "We enjoy reminiscing about the 'good ole days' during the holidays, which is why retro-themed celebrations are so popular: they're ideal for taking guests down memory lane."

Johari ensures all her events feature the classics such as Bing Crosby, canapés and rice pudding, but her most popular retro attraction is her soda fountain bar. Ice cream floats, swamp water and milkshakes are all featured with creative holiday names in a framed menu.

NEWS CANADA

Turn leftover Christmas turkey into deluxe multigrain sandwiches.

Delectable dumplings for the holidays

These trendy Chinese dumplings can't fail to be a hit at holiday parties or when you and your guests ring in the New Year Serve as an appetizer on a chic ceramic spoon Use them in your wonton soup or freeze for later

To serve: Place one wonton in Chinese ceramic soup spoon, drizzle with dipping sauce. Nutritional information per dumpling (values have been rounded to nearest whole number): 38 calories, 2 g protein, 2 g fat, 4 g carbohydrates. Makes 50 dumplings.

Preparation:

1. In a bowl, combine egg, chicken, carrot, green onions, cilantro (if using), ginger, soy sauce, sesame oil, red pepper flakes, turmeric and lemon rind; season with salt and pepper.
2. Lay 1 wonton wrapper on work surface, covering remainder with damp towel to prevent drying out.
3. Moisten wonton edges with water.
4. Place heaping 5 ml (1 tsp) filling in centre; bring all 4 corners to centre and pinch together at top.
5. Seal along each edge. (Or, gather corners and twist to enclose filling.) Repeat with remaining chicken mixture.
6. In a large saucepan, bring broth to a boil over high heat; cook dumplings in batches for 6 to 8 minutes.
7. Remove with slotted spoon and set aside.
8. Dipping Sauce: In a bowl, combine honey, lime juice, carrot, vinegar, ginger and soy sauce.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ingredients :

- 1 egg
- 500 g (1 lb) ground chicken
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) finely chopped or grated carrot
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) minced green onions
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) finely chopped cilantro (optional
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) grated ginger root
- 10 ml (2 tsp) soy sauce
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) sesame oil
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) crushed red pepper flakes
- 0.5 ml (1/8 tsp) turmeric
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- 50 wonton wrappers
- 1 l (4 cups) chicken broth

Dipping Sauce

- 45 ml (3 tbsp) honey
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) lime juice
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) finely chopped carrot
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) rice vinegar
- 10 ml (2 tsp) grated ginger root
- 5 ml (1 tsp) soy sauce

THE CANADIAN PRESS/FOODLAND ONTARIO

▶ These chicken dumplings would be a hit at any Christmas or holiday party.

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SHAW

Facing the prospect of missing the playoffs for the first time since 1997, the New Jersey Devils fired rookie coach John MacLean on Thursday and brought back the firm hand of Jacques Lemaire to try to salvage the season.

The Devils have been one of the most disappointing teams in the NHL this season. New Jersey is tied with the New York Islanders for the fewest points in the league with 20 in 33 games (9-22-2). Their 59 goals are also the fewest.

The 65-year-old Lemaire is expected to coach the team Thursday night against the Islanders.

"It's a decision that certainly is not one that's pleasant or we feel good about," Devils president and general manager Lou Lamoriello said. "But it's a decision that, in my opinion, had to be made."

Lamoriello made the decision two days after the Devils dropped a 5-1 decision to Washington for their third straight loss and eighth in nine games this month. The Devils have been outscored 15-3 in the last three games.

A perennial contender, the Devils were expected to be among the leaders again this season after re-signing all-star forward Ilya Kovalchuk to a 15-year, $100-million US contract in the off-season.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHARLES KRUPA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ John MacLean on the Devil's bench in November.

Domination in Ohio

- Henrik Sedin has career night
- Schneider improves to 4-0-2

CANUCKS	JACKETS
7	3

Henrik Sedin had a goal and three assists to match his career high with four points and the Vancouver Canucks routed the Columbus Blue Jackets 7-3 on Thursday night.

Daniel Sedin and Alex Burrows each had a goal and two assists, Raffi Torres scored twice, and Christian Erhoff and Ryan Kesler also scored for Vancouver, which raced to a 6-0 lead just past the midpoint of the second period a night after an overtime loss in Detroit.

The Canucks scored three goals in the opening 13:13 behind a 16-1 shots advantage. The Blue Jackets didn't have a shot on goal until nearly 13 minutes into the game.

Backup goalie Cory Schneider made 24 saves for the Canucks, who have won 10 of their last 13. R.J. Umberger had two goals and Tom Sestito also scored for Columbus, which has one win in its last six games while being outscored 13-23.

Blue Jackets goalie Mathieu Garon was replaced by Steve Mason in the second period.

With the shots already 12-0, Burrows finally found the net for the Canucks, burying a close-range shot off a slick pass from Henrik Sedin from behind the net at 9:08.

Three minutes later in the Columbus zone, every Canucks skater handled the puck before Henrik Sedin flicked a backhand pass to Erhoff at the top of the right circle for a one-timer that beat Garon.

Blue Jackets rookie coach Scott Arniel used his timeout after the goal to settle his club, but Torres made it 3-0 three minutes later, redirecting Andrew Alberts's slap shot from the point. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JOHN GRIESHOP/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Henrik Sedin battles for the puck with Blue Jacket Marc Methot last night in Columbus.

Bronco gets cited for assault

Broncos Pro Bowl linebacker Elvis Dumervil has been cited for assault and disturbing the peace for an alleged run-in with a security guard at Invesco Field.

Denver court records show the reported incident happened on Oct. 24, the day the Broncos were blown out 59-14 by the Oakland Raiders.

Dumervil's lawyer, Harvey Steinberg, told The Associated Press the linebacker forgot his credentials and a guard wouldn't allow him into a players' parking lot, despite Dumervil showing his driver's licence.

Steinberg said Thursday that it was a simple disagreement and that it's "unfair Elvis is being villainized." The incident was first reported by Denver's KDVR-TV.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NFL PHOTOS

▶ Elvis Dumervil

Sports in brief

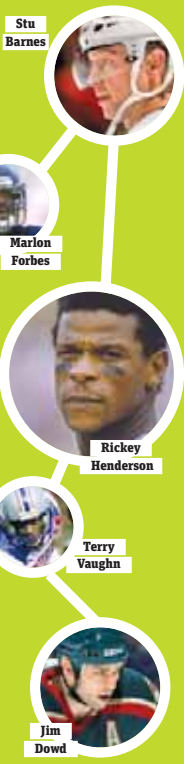
Owner has Ryan's back

NFL. Woody Johnson is standing by his coach. The New York Jets owner said Thursday that Rex Ryan has his full support, a day after the embarrassed coach declined comment about a foot-fetish report by the blog Deadspin. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Favre shows symptoms

NFL. Brett Favre has missed his second straight day of practice. Vikings coach Leslie Frazier says his quarterback is still showing symptoms from a concussion. The coach declined to rule out Favre for Sunday night's game against Philadelphia. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4 sports



The connection

Can you guess the connection between these athletes? Answer below.

Answer: They were all born on Christmas Day.

Scan for code for more sports

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Pittsburgh	36	24	10	2	0	118	83	50	12-6-1-0	12-4-1-0	8-2-0-0	W3
d-Tampa Bay	35	20	10	3	2	109	114	45	10-2-1-1	10-8-2-1	7-1-1-1	W1
d-Montreal	35	20	13	2	0	92	79	42	12-5-2-0	8-8-0-0	5-5-0-0	W1
Philadelphia	35	22	8	2	3	117	87	49	12-6-0-2	10-2-2-1	7-2-0-1	L1
Washington	37	20	12	2	3	111	103	45	13-4-1-3	7-8-1-0	2-5-1-2	L1
Atlanta	37	19	13	1	4	118	108	43	10-7-0-2	9-6-1-2	5-3-0-2	L2
NY Rangers	36	20	14	1	1	108	95	42	8-8-1-1	12-6-0-0	6-3-0-1	L2
Boston	33	18	11	1	3	93	69	40	9-6-1-2	9-5-0-1	5-3-1-1	W1
Carolina	33	15	14	0	4	92	102	34	7-6-0-1	8-8-0-3	4-4-0-2	L2
Ottawa	36	15	17	3	1	83	107	34	8-9-1-1	7-8-2-0	4-3-2-1	W1
Florida	33	16	17	0	0	91	86	32	7-6-0-0	9-11-0-0	5-5-0-0	W1
Buffalo	35	14	17	4	0	92	101	32	8-10-1-0	6-7-3-0	5-4-1-0	L1
Toronto	33	12	17	2	2	75	102	28	8-7-2-1	4-10-0-1	4-6-0-0	L3
NY Islanders	32	8	18	3	3	72	106	22	5-7-1-2	3-11-2-1	3-6-0-1	W2
New Jersey	34	9	23	1	1	60	108	20	5-9-1-1	4-14-0-0	1-9-0-0	L4

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Detroit	34	21	9	3	1	113	96	46	13-4-2-1	8-5-1-0	4-5-1-0	L1
d-Dallas	35	21	10	1	3	102	95	46	12-3-1-2	9-7-0-1	5-2-1-2	L1
d-Vancouver	33	20	8	3	2	112	86	45	11-3-1-1	9-5-2-1	6-2-2-0	W1
San Jose	35	19	11	4	1	106	96	43	10-4-2-1	9-7-2-0	7-2-0-1	W4
Colorado	35	19	12	4	0	122	113	42	10-6-1-0	9-6-3-0	6-3-1-0	L2
Los Angeles	33	20	12	1	0	98	77	41	12-2-1-0	8-10-0-0	7-2-1-0	W2
Chicago	36	19	14	2	1	115	104	41	11-9-0-0	8-5-2-1	6-3-1-0	W3
Nashville	34	17	11	4	2	85	85	40	8-3-3-2	9-8-1-0	6-3-1-0	L3
Anaheim	38	18	16	2	2	98	111	40	11-6-0-1	7-10-2-1	5-4-0-1	L1
St. Louis	34	17	12	2	3	90	96	39	11-4-0-2	6-8-2-1	5-3-1-1	W2
Phoenix	33	15	11	4	3	90	97	37	6-4-2-2	9-7-2-1	4-4-0-2	L2
Columbus	34	17	14	2	1	88	98	37	9-9-0-1	8-5-2-0	4-5-1-0	L1
Minnesota	33	16	13	1	3	82	92	36	8-7-0-2	8-6-1-1	6-2-1-1	W3
Calgary	36	15	18	1	2	95	105	33	9-7-0-0	6-11-1-2	4-5-0-1	W1
Edmonton	33	12	15	1	5	87	113	30	6-8-1-1	6-7-1-3	5-3-0-2	L2

d — division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

Last night's results
Calgary 3 Dallas 2 (SO)
Montreal 3 Carolina 2
Ottawa 2 Nashville 1
Vancouver 7 Columbus 3
Boston 4 Atlanta 1
Florida 4 Buffalo 3
Minnesota 3 Colorado 1
N.Y. Islanders 5 New Jersey 1
Pittsburgh 3 Washington 2 (SO)
San Jose 4 Phoenix 1
St. Louis 4 Detroit 3
Tampa Bay 4 N.Y. Rangers 3 (SO)
Los Angeles 3 Edmonton 2 (SO)
Wednesday's results
Detroit 5 Vancouver 4 (OT)
Chicago 4 Nashville 1
N.Y. Islanders 2 Tampa Bay 1 (OT)
Pittsburgh 5 Florida 2
Tonight's/Tomorrow's games
All times Eastern
No Games Scheduled.
Sunday's games
Pittsburgh at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
Toronto at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Montreal at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
Washington at Carolina, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Atlanta, 7 p.m.
Columbus at Chicago, 7 p.m.
Nashville at St. Louis, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Phoenix at Dallas, 8 p.m.
Edmonton at Vancouver, 9 p.m.
Anaheim at Los Angeles, 9 p.m.

CANUCKS 7, BLUE JACKETS 3

First Period
1. Vancouver, Burrows 7 (H.Sedin, D.Sedin) 9:08
2. Vancouver, Ehrhoff 6 (H.Sedin, Burrows) 12:04
3. Vancouver, Torres 9 (Alberts) 13:13
Penalties — Bieksa Vcr (slashing), Sestito Clb (roughing, roughing) 19:20.
Second Period
4. Vancouver, D.Sedin 18 (Edler, H.Sedin) 4:13
5. Vancouver, Kesler 17 (Hansen, Tambellini) 8:43
6. Vancouver, H.Sedin 8 (D.Sedin, Burrows) 12:46
7. Columbus, Umberger 9 (Vermette) 15:49
Penalties — Tambellini Vcr (holding) 9:04, Voracek Clb (goaltender interference) 13:43, Nash Clb (slashing) 18:45.
Third Period
8. Vancouver, Torres 10 (Hamhuis, Samuelsson) 6:46 (pp)
9. Columbus, Umberger 10 (Voracek) 9:08
10. Columbus, Sestito 2 (Russell, Wilson) 12:20
Penalties — Vermette Clb (cross-checking, tripping) 4:51, Ballard Vcr, Dorsett Clb (slashing) 20:00.
Shots

Vancouver	17	7	6	—30
Columbus	5	6	16	—27

Goal (shots-saves) — Vancouver: C.Schneider (W,4-0-2); Columbus: Garon (L,8-5-2)(22-16), Mason (12:46 second)(8-7). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Vancouver: 1-5; Columbus: 0-1.
Referees — Dan O'Halloran, Justin St. Pierre.
Linesmen — Derek Amell, David Brisebois.
Att. — 12,159 (18,144) at Columbus, Ohio.

CANADIENS 3, HURRICANES 2

First Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — Weber Mtl (elbowing) 8:25, Harrison Car (tripping) 19:17.
Second Period
1. Carolina, LaRose 7 (Carter, Gleason) 1:02 (sh)
2. Montreal, Gomez 5 (Hamrlik, Spacek) 4:47
3. Carolina, Cole 7 (E.Staal) 15:17
4. Montreal, Kostitsyn 10 (Plekanec, Cammalleri) 16:57 (pp)
5. Montreal, Picard 3 (Gomez, Spacek) 19:00 (pp)
Penalty — Cole Car (boarding major) 15:26.
Third Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — Hamrlik Mtl (interference) 0:23, Eller Mtl (delay of game) 10:40, LaRose Car (tripping) 17:47.
Shots

Montreal	11	14	4	—29
Carolina	5	9	10	—24

Goal — Montreal: Price (W,19-11-2); Carolina: Ward (L,14-10-3). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Montreal: 2-5; Carolina: 0-3.
Referees — Chris Lee, Dean Morton. **Linesmen** — Scott Cherrey, Derek Nansen.
Att. — 16,981 (18,680) at Raleigh, N.C.

SENATORS 2, PREDATORS 1

First Period
1. Ottawa, Kovalev 8 (Regin) 9:35
Penalties — Smithson Nash (interference) 11:16, Phillips Ott (interference) 14:43, Ward Nash (high-sticking) 19:12.
Second Period
2. Ottawa, Foligno 4 (Michalek, Kuba) 4:58 (pp)
3. Nashville, Goc 7 (Franson) 7:16
Penalties — S.O'Brien Nash (hooking) 3:18, Rutu Ott (tripping) 5:09, Tootoo Nash (tripping) 11:29, Winchester Ott (holding stick) 15:24, S.O'Brien Nash (interference) 18:23, Foligno Ott (interference) 19:40.
Third Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — None.
Shots

Ottawa	14	9	7	—30
Nashville	10	9	7	—26

Goal — Ottawa: Elliott (W,11-10-3); Nashville: Rinne (L,8-8-4). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Ottawa: 1-5; Nashville: 0-4.
Referees — Ian Walsh, Rob Martell. **Linesmen** — Jonny Murray, Pierre Racicot.
Att. — 17,113 (17,113) at Nashville, Tenn.

FLAMES 3, STARS 2 (SO)

First Period
1. Calgary, Babchuk 5 (Bouwmeester, Morrison) 11:03 (pp)
2. Dallas, Ribeiro 6 (Eriksson, Richards) 17:13 (pp)
Penalties — Iginla Cal, Benn Dal (fighting) 7:19, Ott Dal (tripping) 9:04, Grossman Dal (holding) 14:36, Jackman Cal (delay of game) 16:57.
Second Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — Burish Dal (hooking) 1:11, Tanguay Cal (holding stick) 1:16, Stajan Cal (tripping) 18:01.
Third Period
3. Dallas, Morrow 13 (Ribeiro, Benn) 2:41
4. Calgary, Tanguay 10 (Iginla, Bourque) 18:39
Penalties — Regehr Cal, Segal Dal (fighting) 5:55, Ott Dal (hooking) 14:28.
Overtime — No Scoring.
Penalties — None.
Shootout — Calgary wins 1-0
Calgary (1) — Tanguay, goal; Hagman, miss.
Dallas (0) — Eriksson, miss; Richards, miss; Ribeiro, miss.
Shots

Calgary	6	10	15	2	—33
Dallas	4	2	7	3	—16

Goal — Calgary: Kiprusoff (W,13-16-1); Dallas: Lehtonen (L,15-7-4). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Calgary: 1-4; Dallas: 1-3.
Referees — Gord Dwyer, Marc Joannette.
Linesmen — Darren Gibbs, Bryan Pancich.
Att. — 15,520 (18,532) at Dallas.

KINGS 3, OILERS 2 (SO)

First Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — Foster Edm (hooking) 9:27, Peckham Edm, Clifford LA (fighting) 11:46, Williams LA (interference) 14:05, R.Jones Edm (cross-checking) 18:44.
Second Period
1. Edmonton, Hall 11 (Gagner, Whitney) 1:39 (pp)
2. Los Angeles, Williams 13 (Handzus, Johnson) 8:31 (pp)
Penalties — Handzus LA (hooking) 1:22, Omark Edm (high-sticking) 7:42.
Third Period
3. Edmonton, Jacques 1 (Peckham, Stortini) 4:25
4. Los Angeles, Johnson 3 (Simmonds) 4:45
Penalty — Peckham Edm (holding) 0:59.
Overtime — No Scoring.
Penalty — Los Angeles bench (too many men; served by Smyth) 4:33.
Shootout — Los Angeles wins 2-1
Edmonton (1) — Eberle, goal; Hall, miss; Omark, miss; Gagner, miss; Penner, miss; Cogliano, miss.
Los Angeles (2) — Kopitar, miss; Johnson, miss; Brown, goal; Handzus, miss; Williams, miss; Stoll, goal.
Shots

Edmonton	6	7	13	3	—29
Los Angeles	9	10	7	3	—29

Goal — Edmonton: Dubnyk (L,2-3-4); Los Angeles: Quick (W,17-7-1). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Edmonton: 1-3; Los Angeles: 1-4.
Referees — Brad Meier, Mike Leggo. **Linesmen** — Shane Heyer, Jay Sharrers.
Att. — 18,118 (18,118) at Los Angeles.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	PT
Crosby, Pgh	28	30	58
Stamkos, TB	26	21	47
St. Louis, TB	13	30	43
Perry, Ana	19	22	41
D.Sedin, Vcr	17	23	40

Not including last night's games

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

CLEVELAND INDIANS—Sent RHP Justin Germano outright to Columbus (IL).

NATIONAL LEAGUE

ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS—Sold 1B-OF Rusty Ryal to Yomiuri (Japan-Central).
PITTSBURGH PIRATES—Acquired INF-OF Corey Wimberly from Oakland for RHP Ryan Kelly. Claimed LHP Aaron Thompson off waivers from the Washington. Designated LHP Wil Ledezma for assignment. Agreed to terms with INF Garrett Atkins on a minor league contract.
WASHINGTON NATIONALS—Agreed to terms with LHP Sean Burnett on a two-year contract.

BASKETBALL

NBA

CHARLOTTE BOBCATS—Named Paul Silas coach.

FOOTBALL

NFL

LEAGUE OFFICE—Fined Minnesota CB Antoine Winfield $7,500 for a hit on Chicago QB Jay Cutler in a Dec. 20 game.
CLEVELAND BROWNS—Signed DL Ko Quaye from Buffalo's practice squad.

HOCKEY

NHL

NEW JERSEY DEVILS—Fired coach John MacLean. Named Jacques Lemaire coach.
OTTAWA SENATORS—Recalled G Mike Brodeur from Binghamton (AHL).
TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING—Reassigned F Johan Harju to Norfolk (AHL).

LACROSSE

NLL

BOSTON BLAZERS—Fired coach Tom Ryan.

SOCCER

MLS

NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTION—Signed D Ryan Cochrane. Re-signed G Matt Reis.

HOCKEY

IIHF WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

At Buffalo and Lewiston, N.Y.
All times Eastern

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Sunday's games
At Buffalo, N.Y.
Germany vs. Switzerland, 12:30 p.m.
Russia vs. **Canada**, 4 p.m.
Finland vs. U.S., 8 p.m.
At Lewiston, N.Y.
Norway vs. Sweden, 4 p.m.
Monday's games
At Buffalo, N.Y.
Slovakia vs. Germany, 7 p.m.
At Lewiston, N.Y.
Czech Republic vs. Norway, 7 p.m.
Tuesday's games
At Buffalo, N.Y.
Switzerland vs. Finland, 12:30 p.m.
Canada vs. Czech Republic, 4 p.m.
U.S. vs. Slovakia, 8 p.m.
At Lewiston, N.Y.
Sweden vs. Russia, 7 p.m.

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Boston	23	4	.852	—
d-Miami	22	9	.710	3
d-Chicago	18	9	.667	5
Atlanta	19	12	.613	6
New York	17	12	.586	7
Orlando	17	12	.586	7
Indiana	13	14	.481	10
Milwaukee	12	16	.429	11½
Philadelphia	11	18	.379	13
Detroit	10	19	.345	14
Toronto	10	19	.345	14
Charlotte	9	19	.321	14½
New Jersey	9	21	.300	15½
Cleveland	8	21	.276	16
Washington	7	20	.259	16

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-San Antonio	25	4	.862	—
Dallas	23	5	.821	1½
d-L.A. Lakers	21	8	.724	4
d-Utah	21	9	.700	4½
Oklahoma City	20	10	.667	5½
Denver	16	11	.593	8
New Orleans	17	12	.586	8
Portland	15	14	.517	10
Houston	14	15	.483	11
Phoenix	13	15	.464	11½
Memphis	12	17	.414	13
Golden State	10	18	.357	14½
L.A. Clippers	8	22	.267	17½
Minnesota	6	24	.200	19½
Sacramento	5	22	.185	19

d — division leader
Last night's results
Orlando 123 San Antonio 101
Milwaukee 84 Sacramento 79
Miami 95 Phoenix 83
Wednesday's results
Atlanta 98 Cleveland 84
Detroit 115 Toronto 93
Chicago 87 Washington 80
Boston 84 Philadelphia 80
New York 112 Oklahoma City 98
Utah 112 Minnesota 107
New Orleans 105 New Jersey 91
San Antonio 109 Denver 103
Houston 97 L.A. Clippers 92
Tonight's games
All times Eastern
No games scheduled
Tomorrow's games
Chicago at New York, 12 p.m.
Boston at Orlando, 2:30 p.m.
Miami at L.A. Lakers, 5 p.m.
Denver at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Portland at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

LEAGUE LEADERS

SCORING AVERAGE

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Durant, OKC	26	230	217	716	27.5
Stoudemire, NYK	29	288	183	765	26.4
Bryant, LAL	29	255	194	745	25.7
Ellis, GOL	28	272	129	716	25.6
Nowitzki, DAL	28	256	149	687	24.5
James, MIA	30	244	203	729	24.3
Rose, CHI	26	240	106	631	24.3
Anthony, DEN	24	200	161	576	24.0
Gordon, LAC	28	217	188	663	23.7
Martin, HOU	29	193	229	683	23.6
Wade, MIA	29	236	183	682	23.5
Westbrook, OKC	30	232	210	684	22.8
Williams, UTA	30	220	184	671	22.4
Howard, ORL	26	199	167	565	21.7
Beasley, MIN	28	240	96	598	21.4
Granger, IND	26	191	111	553	21.3
Bargnani, TOR	27	217	106	572	21.2
Love, MIN	30	211	166	628	20.9
Griffin, LAC	30	243	138	626	20.9
Gay, MEM	28	223	94	577	20.6
Scola, HOU	29	243	102	588	20.3
Ginobili, SAN	28	170	146	553	19.8
Gasol, LAL	29	220	128	568	19.6
Lopez, NJN	30	205	167	577	19.2
West, NOR	28	216	103	537	19.2
Aldridge, POR	29	219	112	553	19.1
J. Richardson, ORL	27	190	57	502	18.6
Felton, NYK	29	190	96	528	18.2
Bosh, MIA	30	209	125	546	18.2
Pierce, BOS	27	171	118	491	18.2
Jennings, MIL	25	155	91	448	17.9
Millsap, UTA	30	217	98	536	17.9

Not including last night's games

NFL

WEEK 16

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

EAST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-New England	12	2	0	.857	446	303
N.Y. Jets	10	4	0	.714	295	259
Miami	7	7	0	.500	239	261
Buffalo	4	10	0	.286	273	353

SOUTH

Indianapolis	8	6	0	.571	381	342
Jacksonville	8	6	0	.571	319	365
Tennessee	6	8	0	.429	322	282
Houston	5	9	0	.357	333	386

NORTH

x-Pittsburgh	11	4	0	.733	334	223
Baltimore	10	4	0	.714	324	253
Cleveland	5	9	0	.357	252	271
Cincinnati	3	11	0	.214	281	362

WEST

Kansas City	9	5	0	.643	322	281
San Diego	8	6	0	.571	388	260
Oakland	7	7	0	.500	353	330
Denver	3	11	0	.214	292	415

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

EAST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	10	4	0	.714	412	339
N.Y. Giants	9	5	0	.643	360	288
Washington	5	9	0	.357	268	343
Dallas	5	9	0	.357	354	396

SOUTH

x-Atlanta	12	2	0	.857	369	261
New Orleans	10	4	0	.714	354	270
Tampa Bay	8	6	0	.571	280	290
Carolina	2	13	0	.133	186	377

NORTH

y-Chicago	10	4	0	.714	293	242
Green Bay	8	6	0	.571	333	220
Minnesota	5	9	0	.357	244	314
Detroit	4	10	0	.286	308	329

WEST

St. Louis	6	8	0	.429	258	295
Seattle	6	8	0	.429	279	363
San Francisco	5	9	0	.357	250	314
Arizona	4	10	0	.286	255	370

x — clinched playoff berth.
y — clinched division.
Last night's result
Pittsburgh 27 Carolina 3
Tomorrow's game
All times Eastern
Dallas at Arizona, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday's games
Tennessee at Kansas City, 1 p.m.
San Francisco at St. Louis, 1 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at Chicago, 1 p.m.
Baltimore at Cleveland, 1 p.m.
New England at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
Detroit at Miami, 1 p.m.
Washington at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Indianapolis at Oakland, 4:05 p.m.
Houston at Denver, 4:05 p.m.
San Diego at Cincinnati, 4:05 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Green Bay, 4:15 p.m.
Seattle at Tampa Bay, 4:15 p.m.
Minnesota at Philadelphia, 8:20 p.m.
Monday's game
New Orleans at Atlanta, 8:30 p.m.

FOOTBALL

NCAA

U.S. COLLEGE BOWLS

Subject to Change
All Times Eastern
Last night's result
POINSETTIA BOWL
At San Diego, Calif.
San Diego State 35 Navy 14
Wednesday's result
MAACO BOWL
At Las Vegas
Boise State 26 Utah 3
Tonight's game
HAWAII BOWL
At Honolulu
Hawaii (10-3) vs. Tulsa (9-3), 8 p.m.

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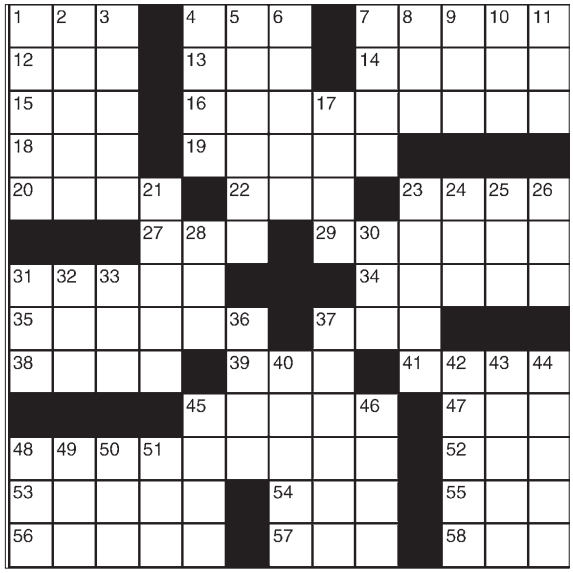
metro play

Crossword



Across

1 Height of fashion?
4 "Le Coq —"
7 Examinations
12 Fuss
13 Man-mouse link
14 Places in the heart
15 Sportscaster Scully
16 Winter weather factor
18 Mel of baseball lore
19 Opposite of blanco (Sp.)
20 At the home of (Fr.)
22 Keanu's role in "The Matrix"
23 Our heaviest president
27 Feedbag tidbit
29 Major fear
31 Topple
34 In two places
35 Japanese emperor
37 Hot tub
38 Rid of rind
39 Multipurpose truck
41 Wild and crazy
45 Argument
47 Miler Sebastian
48 Sculpted jingler
52 Hr. fraction
53 Where the action is
54 Plead
55 Superlative ending
56 Auto style
57 Mag. staffers
58 Red or Black

Down

1 Destruction
2 Gloria Stivic's mom
3 Three-card con
4 This way
5 East
6 Gamut
7 Mexican entree
8 Biblical verb suffix
9 — Lanka
10 Up to
11 Mule of song
17 Let fall
21 Of a region
23 November birthstone
24 Lawyers' org.
25 Evergreen type
26 Body art, for short
28 Supplement
30 Fortune
31 Ref
32 Chart format
33 — out a living
36 "That hurts!"
37 Joined by sewing
40 Clan
42 High spots
43 Din
44 Meddler
45 Read bar codes
46 Cribbage scorekeepers
48 Existed
49 Anger
50 The Simpsons' neighbor
51 "CSI" evidence

▶ Yesterday's answer

Sudoku

2	4						7	6
			6		5			
6		8				9		4
		2	3		1	4		
	9						8	
		6	7		9	2		
7		9				3		2
			9		7			
8	5						1	9

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

4	3	8	6	7	2	5	1	9
7	5	1	8	3	9	6	4	2
9	2	6	1	5	4	8	3	7
5	7	4	9	6	1	2	8	3
2	8	9	7	4	3	1	5	6
6	1	3	5	2	8	7	9	4
3	6	2	4	1	5	9	7	8
1	9	7	3	8	6	4	2	5
8	4	5	2	9	7	3	6	1

Send a KISS

Show some love! Send a note to somebody special at kiss@metronews.ca

Devin...."If I could give you one thing in life, I would give you the ability to see yourself through my eyes, only then would you realize how special you are to me..." **TOOTHFAIRY**

merry christmas i love you Shyla Boudreau lets try to work this out and grow into a bigger family love **OLUWA**

Nadia, You are the octopus on my muffin. Bulbasaur to my pikachu. Protector of my struggling 16 yr. old girl. Beloved blanket thief and much more. You are my faith made manifest that the world wants me to be happy and every day I love you more. **TIGER**

I would like to send a big kiss to my special gal Bernice, you the most amazing women I have ever known, with a smile brighter than any pearl and a heart bigger and sweeter than any chocolate bar. **LOVE DON DIEGO**

Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 Others can be in a downbeat mood if they so wish but you don't see the point. Whatever problems you may have in your life they can wait a few days until you are ready to deal with them.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Is a partner or loved one telling you lies? Put your doubts and differences aside and make the most of the festive season.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 Someone whose support you tend to rely on will be difficult to get hold of today, but you don't need them. You have everything it takes to make the best of your current situation.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 You may think you can break the rules and get away with it and, who knows, maybe you can – but is it worth the risk. If it goes wrong the atmosphere over the holiday period will be frosty to say the least.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 Your logic circuits may tell you that certain things are not possible but at this time of year miracles are possible. You may not entirely believe that but act as if you do and it's quite likely you will work wonders.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 There is no point making a fuss about something you don't have the power to change. It's no big deal. Put it out of your head.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 It might be wise to keep your opinions to yourself over the next couple of days, especially if you want a peaceful festive break.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 Everyone makes mistakes – yes, even a Scorpio – so don't beat yourself up about something you got wrong. Compared to most people you get things right more often than not, so forgive yourself.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 Why do you impose so many limits on yourself? Why do you have to be perfect all the time? Whatever the reason (assuming there is a reason) cut yourself some slack today.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 You may be extraordinarily ambitious but even you can ease off a bit at this time of year. In fact, if you relax physically and mentally over the next few days you'll come up with some great ideas.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 Don't worry if you find it hard to concentrate today. At this time of year you have the perfect excuse to let your mind wander – there's just so much going on.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 Don't worry if you find it hard to concentrate today. At this time of year you have the perfect excuse to let your mind wander – there's just so much going on. SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest

THOMAS LOHNES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Write a funny caption for the image to the right and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

ANN HEISENFELT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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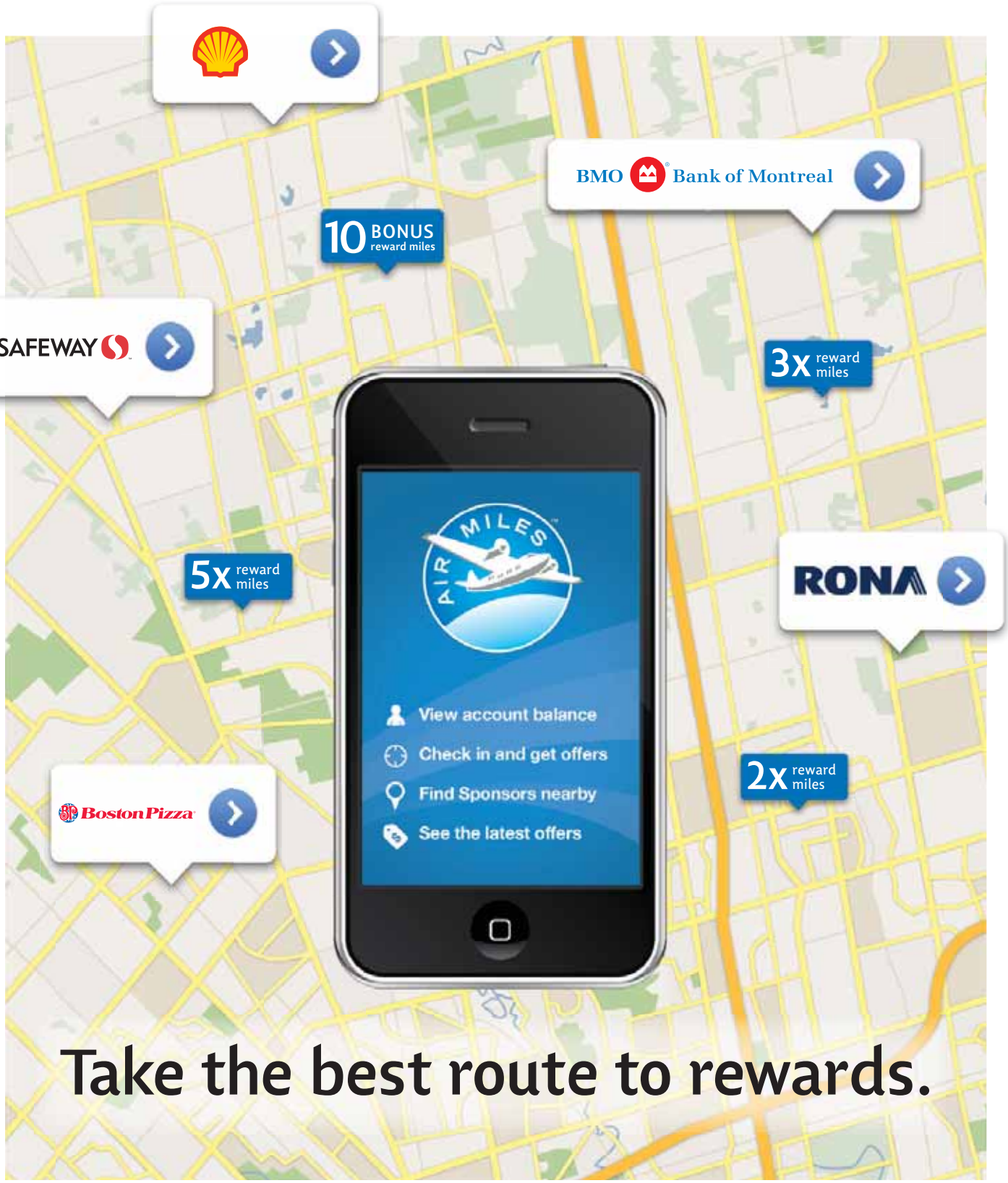

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